

## MERCHANTS HAVE A BRISK TRADE

This Issue of 44 Pages is a Splendid Index to Town's Great Mercantile Interests

In a recent issue of The True Northerner, we stated that this our Holiday edition would be the largest and best edition of a newspaper ever published in Paw Paw. We have done our best to fulfill this promise, and trust that we have succeeded. A forty four page newspaper, in a country office is no small undertaking, and it is perfectly natural that the Northerner's force from Editor to Devil should feel a certain amount of pride in the result of their efforts.

The merchants of Paw Paw this year have made greater preparations than ever before for the Holiday business. There is not a town in the state of Michigan of anywhere near the size of Paw Paw where such complete and attractive displays of seasonable goods can be found. This applies not only to holiday goods, but to all lines. Everything is complete. The prices have all been made as low as it is possible to make them, and Paw Paw should be the trading center for miles around. Trade has been brisk thus far, which shows that the merchants used excellent judgment in selecting their immense stocks of goods both Holiday and Staples.

Distributed through the 36 pages of this issue, will be found a liberal advertising space for nearly every business concern in Paw Paw. We urge every reader of this paper to scan every advertisement carefully. It means dollars in every pocket. Space and time will not permit a special mention of each individual advertiser. They are all good. Look them over, and take advantage of the many, many bargains herein enumerated. You will also find many attractive pages of automobile advertising. They are all reputable dealers, and the advertisements are splendid reading. Read them over and pick out your car.

In conclusion we desire to thank the merchants, correspondents and every one who has in any way contributed to the success of this big edition. Merry Christmas and may God bless you.

## ROYAL ARCH MASONS ELECT OFFICERS

At the regular convocation of Paw Paw Chapter No. 34, R. A. M., last Monday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Frank N. Wakeman.....	H. P. Wm. A. Sinkins.....
Chas. C. Young.....	S. Dr. W. C. Y. Ferguson.....
E. F. Parks.....	Treas. Harry A. Nash.....
Merle H. Young.....	P. S. Harry C. Waters.....
Wm. M. Thayer.....	M. 3d V. Willard Warner.....
Paul H. Smith.....	M. 2nd V. C. W. Reynolds.....
S. Sen.	

The newly elected officers were installed by Past Excellent High Priest Wm. M. Killefer, after which the P. M. and M. E. M. degrees were conferred. The Royal Arch degree will be conferred at a special convocation next Monday night.

## BANKRUPT STOCK WAS SOLD

The bankrupt stock of The New York Racket store was sold on Monday last to H. Leonard and Son, of Grand Rapids, for \$2,165. It has not been announced whether the stock would be moved away, or whether it will be sold here. There were several Paw Paw bidders for the property.

## DELEGATES ENJOY SIGHTS IN CAPITAL

A card from Harvey A. Sherman states that the party reached Washington all O. K. Harvey is with Roy M. Watkins, of Grand Rapids, who is president of the State League of Republican clubs, and Attorney C. M. Van Riper of Hartford, who is also a delegate to the convention of the National League of Republican clubs. In session there this week in connection with the meeting of the National Republican committee. The boys are quartered in a suite of rooms formerly occupied by President McKinley and wife. They are enjoying the week in the national capital, immensely, and The True Northerner will endeavor to give an extended account of the trip on their return which will undoubtedly be the first of next week.

## HONORS FOR HAROLD SALYER

In a recent oratorical contest, the Hillsdale Normal team defeated the Michigan State Normal team. The True Northerner was pleased to note among the members of the victorious debating team, the name of Harold Salyer, formerly of Paw Paw. This young man is a graduate of the Paw Paw schools, and was class orator on commencement night. He has a bright future before him.

## DEATH OF WILLIAM F. CODY

Wm. F. Cody died at his home in the Lee District December 8, and was buried in Prospect cemetery last Friday. Deceased was 72 years of age and came here with his family from Illinois about a year ago. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and Paw Paw Lodge No. 25, F. and A. M., at the request of his home lodge in Illinois, had charge of the funeral services.



'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care  
In the hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;  
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of sugar plums danced through their heads.

## SECOND EVENING MAPLE CITY CLUB

One of Most Enjoyable Social Sessions Ever Held by This Popular Club.

Last Thursday evening, Dec. 9th, the ladies and gentlemen of the Second committee of the Maple City Club, composed of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Breed, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Buskirk, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wildey, Mr. and Mrs. Will Longwell and Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Spicer entertained the members of the club to a fine six o'clock dinner as was ever served to the hungry and appreciative partakers who graced the banquet board.

Mrs. Dan Bennett, (nee Miss Aliene Buskirk), of Lawrence, and her orchestra, composed of Miss Trim, of Bangor, and Miss Irene Lane, of this city, rendered some very fine selections during the dinner hour.

The hall and tables were artistically decorated with Christmas bells and ropes of red and green and presented a most pleasing and cheery appearance as the banquet hall was entered. As usual when the tables were cleared the remainder of the evening was spent with cards and tripping the light fantastic toe to the urging strains of Downing's orchestra. Everyone seemed full of the Christmas cheer and entered into the enjoyment of the evening's amusement to the fullest extent.

The members of this committee did themselves proud and can congratulate themselves on the success of the evening's entertainment.

## CHRISTMAS HOURS AT POST OFFICE

Christmas is the one holiday of the year that the rural mail carriers can not enjoy. Uncle Sam says that the rural carriers must make their deliveries as usual on Christmas that none of their patrons may be disappointed in receiving parcels that were intended for Christmas. Therefore the rural carriers will make their trips as usual on Christmas. The postmaster announces the following hours for the postoffice on that day: The stamp and general delivery windows will be open from 6:45 a. m. to 10:30 a. m., and 2:30 p. m. to 5:30 p. m. The money order window will be open from 8:00 a. m. to 10:30 a. m.

## CONTEST WILL BE LIVELY

The contest for Township Treasurer this year promises to be a lively one. Last week's issue contained an announcement of the candidacy of C. W. Van Tassel. Since that time, Neil Engel has stated to The True Northerner that he was also a candidate. Mr. Engel is proprietor of The Bakery. He has served on the Village council and has a large acquaintance. It is rumored that there may be several other candidates for this office, and the contest promises to be a "Hoss Race."

## ROYAL ARCH DEGREE NEXT MONDAY NIGHT

There will be a special convocation of Paw Paw Chapter No. 34, R. A. M., next Monday night, December 29. Work in Royal Arch degree. Supper in dining room after the work. The officers have asked The True Northerner to make a special appeal to every member of the chapter to be present at this convocation if possible.

## The True Northerner

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## CHRISTMAS

BY THE EDITOR.

Christmas is upon us. It is the festival of the home, and the season when the hearts of the fathers and mothers are turned toward the children, and the feet of the children turn back to the home whence they went out. Little ones hail its coming with exuberant gladness, and older people enter into the festivities with subdued pleasure, in which memories of home behind, and hopes of the home ahead are strangely mingled with present joys. What a time it is for cultivating domestic affections and invigorating the virtues, which root themselves into these loves.

Let the keynote of our Christmas be love—"Peace on Earth Goodwill to Men". Let those who have been blessed with plenty see to it that their neighbors and friends have good cheer and abundance to make their hearts glad. And as the glad joyous festal time draws near, and innumerable hearts are beating in delightful anticipation, see to it that you do your part to make everybody happy.

Store windows are decked in holiday attire; the Holly and Evergreen hand in gay festoons; and the wonderful Christmas tree is about to put in its appearance. Cheery voices are ringing out in rehearsal of song and chorus for the coming celebration; Merry Christmas will soon be here. The Christmas songs will be songs of peace. Christmas greetings will be greetings of good will. They will soften the hard hearts; purify base desires; sweeten bitter thoughts and make every deed purer and holier; every wish kinder and more tender.

Yes, Christmas is drawing near, and let us with one accord tenderly cling to the old year with one hand, while we stretch forth the other to greet the new. To some the year has been one of prosperity and happiness; to others one of adversity and sorrow. It is true that there are many precious memories that we cannot banish if we would, and for the time we will live in the sunshine. We will endeavor to brighten the atmosphere and bring joy to those about us. We must not live the day for self alone, but for those about us. Live for those who love us, and those who are left for us to love. Let hearts expand, sympathies enlarge, and good will reign. Let benedictions drop from lips, and substantial gifts fall from overflowing hands. Make cheerless homes radiant, and hopeless hearts to thrill with unspeakable gladness. Forgive your enemies. Bury the past. Rise above the mean and petty resentments which you may have harbored against those who have not used you well. Be generous. Get ready to start the new year with more kindly feelings and more noble ambitions. Make the Christmas of this year a day to which you can always look back with pleasure and gratitude. Peace and good will unto you, dear readers, and a Merry, Merry Christmas to you all, is the wish of The True Northerner.

## HOLIDAY RUSH IN FULL BLAST

Week Has Been Busy One at Post Office. Volume of Mail Increasing Daily.

Many have taken advantage of the suggestions of the postmaster, to mail their parcels early, and the postoffice has been a busy place the past week. The real rush, however, will not be on until the first of next week. Early indications point to a record holiday postal business at the local office. The postmaster again urges the patrons to mail their parcels just as early as possible. Remember you can put on the inscription, "Do not Open until Christmas." It would be much better to have a parcel arrive a few days before Christmas than to have it delayed until a week after the time it was expected to arrive. Remember to wrap parcels securely and address plainly with pen and ink, with your return address in the upper left hand corner of address side of parcel. Also remember that you can insure a parcel up to \$5.00 in value for the small sum of three cents, and up to \$25.00 for a nickel. The insurance fee is so small, you can hardly afford to send your parcels without insurance. Then if during the great crush during the holidays in the mail cars, your parcel should get lost or destroyed, you can recover its value. Otherwise it is lost.

## BLUE LODGE WILL ELECT OFFICERS

Regular communication of Paw Paw Lodge No. 25, F. and A. M., next Tuesday night, December 21. This will be an important meeting. There will be the annual election of officers, besides the arrangements for "Past Master's" night, which comes this year on Monday night, December 27. Every member of the fraternity who can possibly do so, should make a special effort to be present at this communication.

## SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS IN ALL THE CHURCHES

The claims of Jesus Christ upon men are definite and imperative. But because they are being denied by so many who withhold from Him the allegiance He deserves they will be presented to this community again by a concerted effort of the churches.

A vigorous evangelistic campaign will be launched by the churches of Paw Paw the first Sunday of January. Beginning with that date the three resident pastors will hold simultaneous meetings every night except Saturday for three weeks. Each minister will preach in his own pulpit and will be assisted with the music by a leader from his own choir. All the christian workers of these churches are being organized for this campaign.

The three meetings will be conducted at the same time instead of a single union meeting, not because of any disposition on the part of the churches to compete with each other, but because they believe that that method will produce the larger net results. There will be the closest possible co-operation between the churches and many features of the campaign will be carried on by them unitedly. For example, a systematic religious canvass will be made by a united force of workers from the churches. Cottage prayer-meetings also will be held without regard to denomination. The purpose of the effort is purely Kingdom Extension and not denominational rivalry.

It is hoped that all christian people will feel a sense of responsibility in this great work and that they will not only give it their heartiest support but will also use their influence to prevent any unnecessary gatherings or social functions from interfering with it.

## GET READY FOR FIREMEN'S BALL

Big Event Comes This Year on February 1. Plan to Make it the Best Ever.

The annual Firemen's ball will be held this year on Tuesday night, February 1. The chief and his committee are already busy with preliminary plans to make this the biggest event of its kind ever held in Paw Paw. The Firemen's ball is always the one big event of the year, and the citizens of Paw Paw and vicinity are most liberal in their patronage. This is the only function the firemen realize any money from, but the individual firemen receive no financial benefit from it. The money is put in a fund, where it is kept for use in case of need. A large sum has been used this year, in the care of one of the firemen, Frank Hennessey, who was injured at the time of the Dyckman House fire. Paw Paw has one of the best fire companies in the state. The services of its members are entirely voluntary. No one receives any financial remuneration, and it is up to every citizen of the village to purchase a ticket for this annual event, no matter what may be their individual opinion in regard to dancing. When some member of the committee calls on you with tickets, greet him with a smile and "Come Across" with enough "Coin of the Realm" to purchase a ticket.

## PROMINENT ATT'Y ANSWERS LAST CALL

Hiram T. Cook, lawyer of South Haven, and one of the leading practitioners of the Van Buren county bar, passed away at his home in South Haven Tuesday morning. Mr. Cook practiced for many years in the lake-side city, being associated with James E. Chandler, formerly of Paw Paw, under the firm name of Cook & Chandler. A year ago this past summer Mr. Cook's health began to fail him, and in order to regain it, he left the firm and went south for several months, coming back to South Haven where he again took up his profession alone, where he has since practiced. Attorney Cook has always enjoyed a splendid practice, not only in the local courts but in the state and district courts as well. He was well known in Paw Paw, especially among the members of his profession who delighted to be in his happy company. Several members of the local bar will attend the funeral, which will be held Thursday. He was past 63 years, leaves a widow but no children.

## SLEIGHING FOR CHRISTMAS

The first real snow of the season came last Sunday, and by evening the merry jingle of sleigh bells were heard. It has continued snowing a little each day, and the prospects are good for good sleighing for the holidays. The roads had been worn down perfectly smooth before the snow came, which provided an excellent foundation for the snow.

## STORK LEAVES MOST MAGNIFICENT HOLIDAY GIFT

Mr. and Mrs. David Woodman, living south west of the city, are rejoicing over the arrival of twins on Saturday, December 11, one a boy and the other a girl. Each tipped the scales at 5 pounds net. The young gentleman will be known as Robert Frederick Woodman and the little Miss will be called Margaret Jane. They were surely some Christmas present, and Grandpa Jason is all swelled up with pride as he "trots, trots to Boston" one on each knee and thinks to himself, "I now have one on most all granddads living," and goes on with his song, "Rock Abye Babies."

Mother and babies are all doing well and David, by the smile of happiness that spreads all over his countenance which speaks for itself, says: "Quite well, thank you."

## A GOLDEN WEDDING IN THE GOLDEN WEST

Mrs. Nat. Bangs received a paper from Seattle, Wash., containing the account of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene W. Mills, at one time residents of our little village. Their daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren gathered around the festive board on Thanksgiving day. It was the golden wedding anniversary of the aged couple, and at their request the gathering was made a good old fashioned family reunion rather than a party.

## GUESTS AT SUNDAY DINNER

Following are the guests who were entertained for dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Guy F. Warner last Sunday: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Labadie, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Labadie, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Warner and children, Mrs. Jennie Warner and Glenn, Leland and Blaine Warner.

Mr. and Mrs. James Nelson will entertain all their children and grandchildren Christmas day to a good old Christmas dinner and a real Christmas tree in the evening. Those expected to enjoy the festivities are: H. C. Waters and family, Frank Nelson and family, Donald Payne, wife and baby of this city, Will Nelson and family and L. A. Packer and family of Lawton.